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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for the territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southern States; and by Franklin H. Potter, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Miss Bertha Green, Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

California

Berkeley.—The fourth annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Pacific States will be held in Berkeley, California in the week beginning July 7, during the summer session of the University of California. Of interest to teachers of the classics is the fact that Lane Cooper, professor of English Literature at Cornell University, is to give a course in the summer session at Berkeley on The Classics for English Readers; a study will be made of the ancient classics in standard translations. In the same session Dr. Torsten Petersson will offer a course on Roman Literature and one on Cicero, dealing with him as a man of affairs and as an author; Professor George M. Calhoun will teach Greek for beginners and lecture on "The Comedies of Aristophanes." Professor John J. Van Nostrand in his course entitled "Roman and Barbarian" will make a study of Roman influence upon Western Europe. In the University of California's summer session in Los Angeles Dr. Walter A. Edwards, recently president of the Classical Association of the Pacific States, will deal with the problems of the second year in Latin; he will also offer a course in Latin composition, and one on the Roman elegiac poets.

Illinois

Chicago.—The Greek and Latin section of the Educational Conference of the Academies and High Schools in Relations with the University of Chicago held on May 9 was well attended and enthusiastic. Professor F. J. Miller presided. Especial interest was excited in Professor Laing's demonstration of Roman costumes with the aid of his students.

The program follows. "Co-ordination between English and Latin," C. E. Pence, Harvard School, Chicago; "Standardized Tests in Latin," Harry F. Scott, University High School; Demonstration of Roman Costumes with Figurines by Members of Professor Laing's Class in Roman Private Life; Curule Magistrate, Miss Bennett; Citizens of Equestrian and Plebeian Rank,

Miss Stejskal and Miss Miller; Boy, Miss Crowder and Miss McCarthy; Girl, Miss Van Deweer and Miss Fortune; Matron, Miss Young and Miss Rust. (Figurines and costumes made by the students). "The Proposed American League for Classical Studies," W. L. Carr, University High School.

Iowa

Indianola.—Miss Joanna Baker, of Simpson College, sends us an interesting modern parallel to the ancient story of how the geese saved Rome. She writes:

Perhaps many of the readers of the *Classical Journal* have noticed how the ducks of Zale-Zir saved the British, early last autumn. The British had the Upper Lake, keeping back the Bulgars. The connecting stream to the north was almost impenetrable, because it was a maze of reeds and swamps. However, the orderly set out one night to visit the outposts up the river, nearly two miles from camp. "It was very dark. As he neared the sentry, he heard the movement of wings," says the report. "He distinguished flock after flock of ducks, flying from their night rest among the reeds."

This peculiar circumstance led to an investigation. It was learned that some two hundred German raiders were approaching. By means of this information, the British were enabled to make an attack upon the enemy, utterly routing them, killing many, and capturing others, until probably "no more than six of the raiders ever reached Bulgar lines."

Massachusetts

Northampton.—The second Annual Conference of the Latin departments of Mount Holyoke, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley, which was planned to continue the work of the meeting at Vassar in the autumn of 1917, was held at Smith College on March 21 and 22. Mount Holyoke was represented by Professors Searles, Taylor, and Waites; Vassar, by Professors Moore, Haight, and Saunders; Wellesley, by Professors Hawes and Walton and Dr. Miller; and Smith, by all the members of the Latin department.

The opening address was delivered on Friday evening, March 21, by Paul Elmer More, of Princeton, New Jersey, and was a stimulating and well-rounded presentation of the subject "Latin and the Great War." His theme was taken from the letter of a French captain, who recently wrote from the trenches, "*Nous combattons pour l'humanité et pour les humanités.*" A meeting for the consideration of problems in Latin teaching and curriculum was held on Saturday morning. In the evening papers were read concerning aspects of classical studies in America, England, and Rome, and concerning Latin in relation to other courses. Especially interesting was a report from Wellesley of a course in Latin literature for the purpose of general culture, open without prerequisite other than the entrance requirement, and a report from Mount Holyoke on work in derivatives for Freshman classes. Through the papers and discussions each department was enabled to know better the conditions and problems at the other colleges represented, and to work with greater sympathy and co-operation.

Ohio

Columbus.—The spring meeting of the Columbus Latin Club was in the form of a luncheon at the Hotel Chittenden, March 29. The following program was presented: "The Second Type of Latin Conditionals," Professor R. V. Smith, Capital University; "Glimpses of Neo-Latin," Professor Henry R. Spencer, Ohio State University. Miss Harriet Kirby of North High School and Dr. Dwight Robinson of Ohio Wesleyan University participated in the discussion by making eloquent pleas for the rigid adherence to high scholastic standards in the educational reconstruction affecting the courses of study of secondary schools and of universities. Covers at the luncheon were laid for fifty-three guests, including members from Union, Delaware, Licking, and Fairfield counties in addition to the local membership.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia.—A symposium on educational reconstruction was held by the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Liberal Studies, February 21. The speakers and their subjects were as follows: "Principles and Policies, National, State, Municipal," Dr. Francis Burke Brandt, of the Philadelphia Public Schools; "The New Humanities," Dean William McClellan, the Wharton School of Finance, the University of Pennsylvania; "Teachers' Salaries," President Joseph Swain, Swarthmore College; "The Higher Education," Professor William I. Hull, Swarthmore College; "Samson: a Field for Cultural Service," Professor Elihu Grant, Swarthmore College; "Can the Primacy of Culture Be Restored?" Rev. John A. MacCallum, the Walnut Street Presbyterian Church. The papers read for the symposium on the value of the classics, mentioned in the January issue of this *Journal* (p. 270), have been collected and published by the University of Pennsylvania. A copy of this pamphlet, containing fifty-one pages, may be obtained by sending five cents in stamps to Professor George Depue Hadzists, University of Pennsylvania.

Pittsburgh.—The final meeting of the Classical Association of Pittsburgh and vicinity was held on May 17. The program was as follows: "Vergil's Account of Aeneas' Life in Italy Compared with those by Cato, Livy, and Dionysius of Halicarnassus," Miss Laura C. Green, Pennsylvania College for Women; "How to Make the Study of Latin Syntax Interesting and Profitable," Prof. T. W. Dickson, Dean Thiel College; Round Table Conference: "Syntax in the Second Year," Chairman, Mr. Frank T. McClure, Allegheny High School; (a) "Amount," Discussion led by Mr. Frank L. Matteson, Peabody High School; (b) "How?" Discussion led by Mrs. Mabel C. Baird, Fifth Avenue High School; (c) "Why?" Discussion led by Prof. B. L. Ullman, University of Pittsburgh; "The Classics and the Social Emphasis in Education," Prof. John Mossatt Mecklin, University of Pittsburgh.